

TROPICAL CYCLONE 01A

Tropical Cyclone 01A was the first and only significant tropical cyclone to develop in the North Indian Ocean during the spring transition season. Due to persistent upper-level cloudiness (Figure 3-01A-1) the system proved difficult to position, track and forecast. Tropical Cyclone 01A was initially identified as an area of convection about 240 nm (444 km) south of

Bombay, India on 8 June by the Air Force Global Weather Central. It was first mentioned on the Significant Tropical Weather Advisory at 081800Z. After satellite imagery indicated a central dense overcast, increased convection and upper-level organization, a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert was issued at 091430Z. The system's organization continued

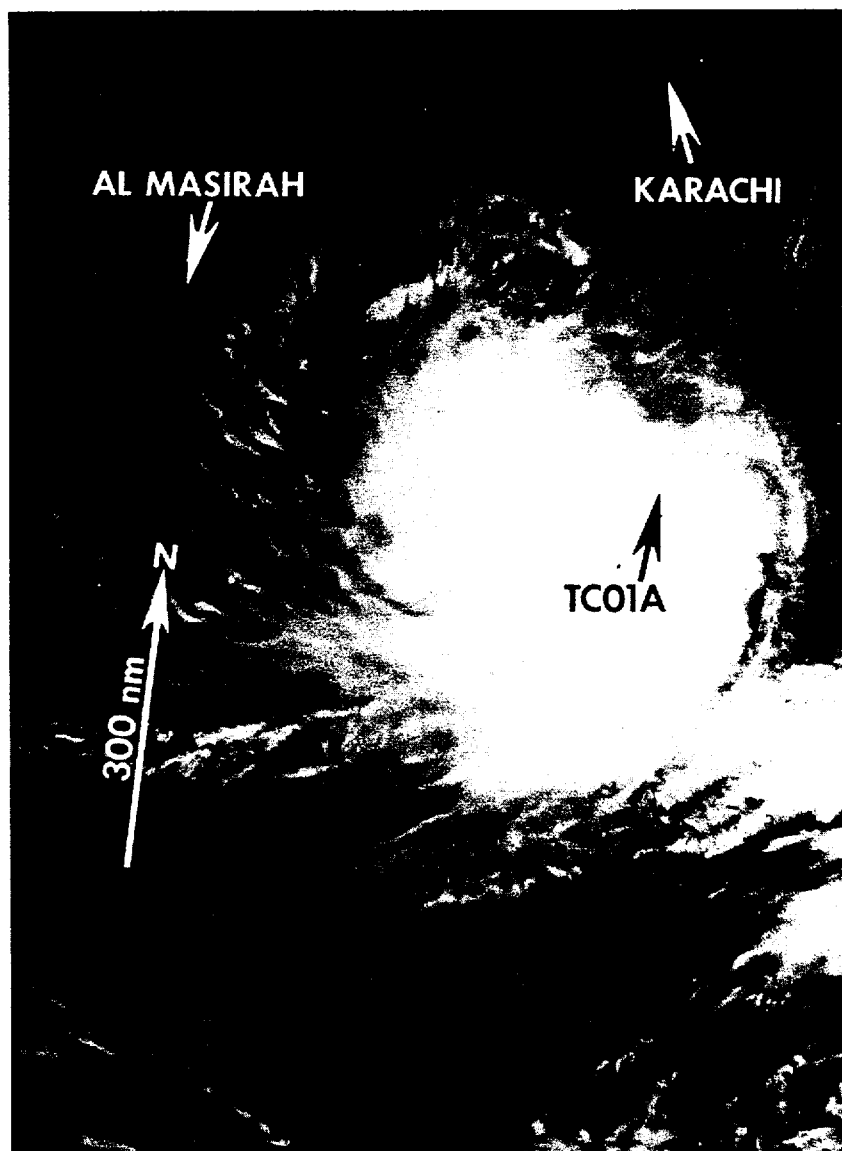


Figure 3-01A-1. The bright, cold cloudiness persisted over and masked the low-level circulation (100530Z June DMSP infrared imagery).

to improve and JTWC issued its first warning at 100000Z when satellite imagery and synoptic data indicated an intensity of 35 kt (18 m/sec). Finally, vertical wind shear exposed the low-level circulation center. As a result, the 110000Z warning was amended and relocated -

the circulation center appeared 240 nm (407 km) east-southeast of the upper-level circulation center (Figure 3-01A-2). Unfavorable conditions aloft continued and at 120600Z the final warning was issued, as the tropical cyclone dissipated over water.

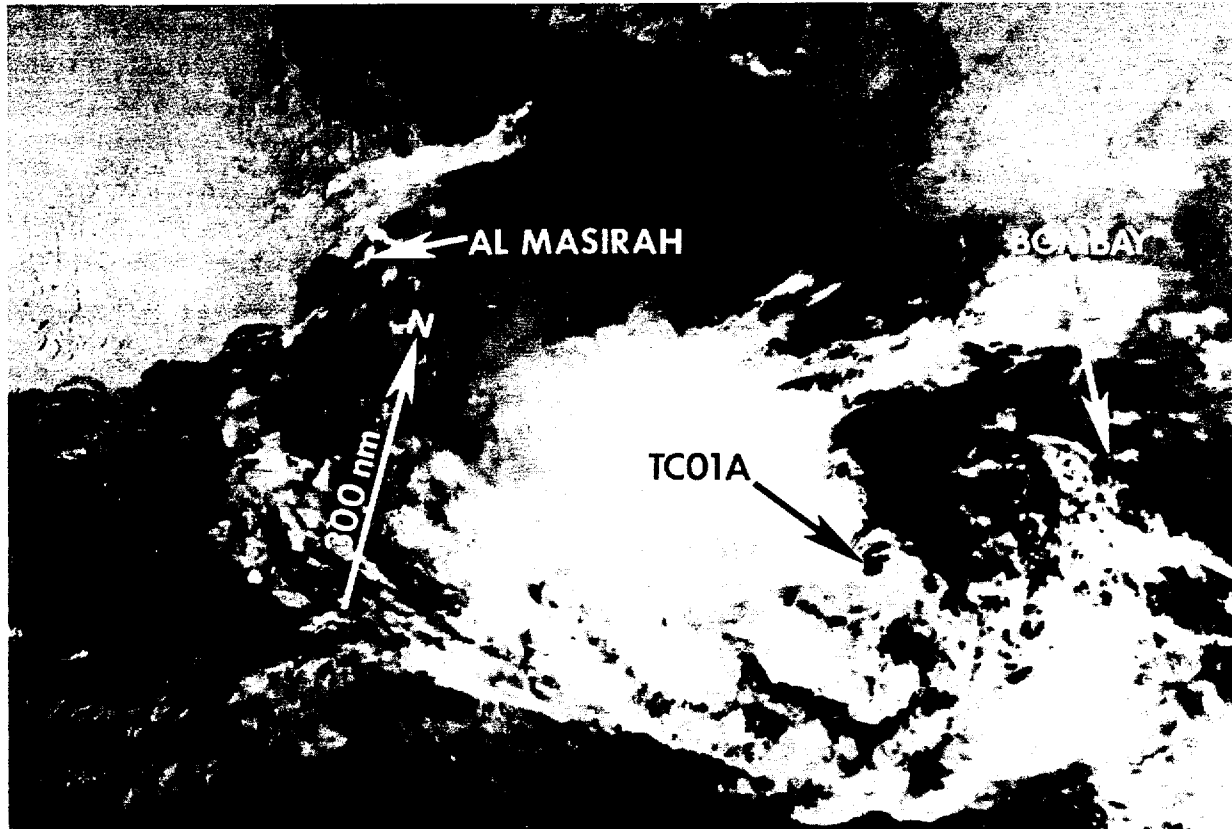


Figure 3-01A-2. The low-level circulation is exposed. Note the dust blowing seaward from coastal areas to the north (110511Z June DMSP visual imagery).